

January 25, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney  
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice  
601 D Street NW, Ste. 1200  
Washington, DC 20530

**VIA FACSIMILE**  
(202) 616-9937

Dear Ms. Hesse:

Each time I think about those Enron employees whose 401k retirement accounts have been obliterated to nothing, my heart goes out. In this day and age, all of us are counting on corporate stocks to provide for our years after we finish working. That is why I hope the courts will resolve this Microsoft case by approving of the settlement.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans are now going to work longer than they originally planned because of the recent stock market crash. I believe the uncertainty this case against Microsoft causes in the market is very threatening to those of us who are using the market to finance our retirement. This case has too much significance with too many people to get caught up in insignificant issue. It is time to settle.\

Sincerely,

Chris Ernst

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Chris Ernst', written over a horizontal line.